

The only way to get them was to catch them in the act. The witness then suggested that as McDevitt could not go to New York he (Flinder) had better go, and it was arranged that he should go to New York. When he came back from New York the witness did not believe that he went. He said that he could not get the package for less than \$5,000. The broker said there was about \$15,000 in the house and they generally demanded one-third of the amount for restoring it. After conversation it was arranged that witness should go to New York with Flinder and they left on Wednesday, Flinder having \$5,000 with him. When they reached New York, at the request of Flinder, they stopped at different hotels. In the evening Flinder reported that he had seen the broker, but had done nothing. The next day, at another interview, Flinder said that everything had been arranged and the package would be delivered up on the payment of the \$5,000. The witness suggested that they hold on a little longer. He met him again at the Hotel building and the witness objected to paying over the money, but Flinder said that otherwise they would not get it, and if the money was paid he could return the money to Mr. White that night.

Mr. Thompson succeeded to relate the statement made to him by Flinder and how the thieves had treated him and failed to complete negotiations with him and proposed reporting them to police headquarters. The witness expressed doubt as to whether he, but Flinder said that he would try again. The witness saw him the next morning, and Flinder was told that everything was arranged. He did not see Flinder in New York again, but on Friday, at about two or three days after, and when he charged \$100 for his services the witness paid it willingly and thought it the most reasonable charge he ever knew. Since the matter was settled the witness said that Flinder had told him a different story as to how the money was recovered. This was that he went from New York over to Jersey City with a party and then drove some distance into the country. The man left him in the buggy and went into the woods and came back with a package in a tin can.

On the cross-examination Mr. Thompson said that a bank cashier in New York had talked with him about the matter in the presence of a detective and the detective had advised him to pay the money. The remainder of the cross-examination was not important.

Ex-Detective August H. Voss was examined for the defense, testified that Mr. White urged Flinder to go to New York on the night after the robbery, but he declined to do so until the next day. He saw no paper of any kind produced, and he did not think Mr. White was in the room.

Mr. Christy objected to the admission of the testimony of Horace Hoban on the ground that he was convicted felon and had served a term in the penitentiary. He claimed that the Maryland law, which forbids a convicted felon from testifying, was generally understood, this disqualification, which existed under the common law, was confined to Baltimore county alone, and therefore the old common law disqualification still existed here. The court decided to admit the testimony.

Hoban was then sworn. He was a gentlemanly appearing, well dressed man, about 35 years old, with dark brown hair and full beard and mustache, of the middle western type, speaks in a low tone and in the general, unpretentious fashion common to men of his position.

He said he first met McDevitt July 2, 1880, and first knew Flinder in September, 1879. He was given Flinder's address by a party, and called to see him at his house, in Washington. He next saw him in October of the same year and in December and in January, 1879, then in the latter part of March, 1880, in May, and on June 24, 1880, at ways in Washington. On one of the last two occasions he saw Flinder at his residence, on C, between Four-and-a-half and Sixth streets, he thought.

"Did you have anything to do with the robbery of the National Metropolitan bank on July 2, 1880?" asked Mr. Worthington.

"Yes, sir."

"Did you previously have any conversation with Mr. Flinder about proposed robberies?"

"Yes, sir."

It was in the neighborhood of the Riggs house in May or June. Witness then told Flinder that he did not see any chance of doing anything in the disbursement clerk's office in the treasury, and witness thought he would go away. Witness told him to do as he liked. Flinder had previously spoken about the disbursement clerk's having a large amount of money the first of each month. The disbursement clerk's name was Burch. Witness had conversations in September, 1879, with Flinder in regard to robberies. He then found Flinder at 612 Sixth street, his residence. He told Flinder that Miner sent him there and told him that Flinder had something for him. Flinder told him that there was a large amount of money drawn about the first of every month to the office of the disbursement clerk. Witness said he would go and look at it, and did so. He met Flinder that afternoon near the Arlington, told him he had looked at the place, didn't see anything, but would come back the next month. Witness came again in October and December on the same business. On Jan. 2, 1879, witness saw Flinder fifteen minutes after the printing house robbery. It was several squares northwest of the printing office that they met. Witness told Flinder he had the printing house money. Flinder said all right, and told him to take the train. Witness went to Baltimore, and the money was given to Miner and Flinder, but witness did not know of his own knowledge how it was divided.

The robbery of the National Metropolitan bank was done by Rufus Miner, John Jarvis, George Corson, Frank Taylor, John Price, William Burke and some others.

Witness described Miner as a man 46 or 47 years old, 5 feet 7 inches in height, weighing 160 pounds. Corson was 35 years old, 5 feet 8 inches in height, weighing 140 pounds, light complexion, mustache and side whiskers or full beard, light sandy in color. Price weighed about 100 pounds, was about 40 years old, 5 feet 7 inches in height, shorter than Corson, and wore a dark brown beard.

The witness then told what part he had in the robbery of the National Metropolitan bank. "It was in the Riggs house," he said, "about noon on July 2. I came out and stood a few minutes on the steps on Fifteenth street and saw some of the party mentioned to me to go over to the bank. I went in at the side door of the bank and walked half way to the cashier's desk. There I met Burke, who had the package and handed it to me. I put it in my pocket and went out of the side door, around the corner, along G street to Fourteenth, where we met Miner with the buggy. The buggy had been hired that morning for use in case we got anything out of the disbursement clerk's office. Miner and I drove around to the north side of Franklin square, a little ways from the corner of Thirteenth and K street. In a few minutes Burke came up and, I think, Price. But I might have been wrong. I had been partly sitting on the package in the buggy. There were a number of envelopes with a rubber band holding them together. I just opened the package enough to get out a \$500 United States bond which was on top. Then I gave it to Burke. I was going to ask Flinder to loan me some money on that bond. We four talked about that there. Miner and I took the package, which was done up again after the bond was taken out, and we drove southeast, crossing Pennsylvania avenue this side of the capitol, went around the capitol and out what I think is the Bladensburg road. We went to the left of Mt. Olivet cemetery and out to a little house. A little road, I think it is a private road, runs off there, and we drove down that, turned off the bottom. There were some brush and grass there, and we buried the package. It was wrapped up either in oil or in rubber. It was 400 or 500 feet from the Bladensburg road. There were no buildings there. Miner and I then came back to the city by about the same course."

The witness left the buggy on G street, between Seventh and Eighth streets, and went to Franklin square on foot. Miner took the buggy to the stable. Witness arrived at Franklin square about 2 o'clock, and there met Jarvis, Corson, Burke, and Price. They talked there some, and then they all went to meet Flinder. He told the witness that McDevitt said the package would have to go back to the bank. He said the bank would not give more. Flinder said he didn't think so, but would see. All the party were engaged

in the conversation. While they were talking McDevitt and a strange young man got out of a passing car and came toward them. At that Corson started toward the court house, and McDevitt and the young man walked that way also. Witness walked away, and when he looked back Flinder and McDevitt were talking together. Corson and the stranger had disappeared. Flinder beckoned to witness, who went to him. Flinder said the presence of McDevitt that the package would have to go back and the bank would give \$3,000 for it. They all went around to the rear of the building and talked the matter over. McDevitt and Flinder repeated that the property must go back. Witness and his friends wanted more money, and Flinder said he would go back to the bank and see if he could get any more. It was almost agreed then to take \$3,000, but it was finally arranged that the thieves should all go back to New York, where they lived, and Flinder agreed to meet Miner in New York on Thursday.

"Were there any money transactions at that interview in the court-house square?" asked Mr. Worthington.

"I was short of money," replied the witness, "and I borrowed \$10 of McDevitt which I afterwards sent to him."

Witness stated that he then went to his room at the southeast corner of New York avenue and twelfth street, got his baggage, and took the train for New York.

The court then adjourned.

THE PRESBYTERY.

Constitution of That Body Last Night and the Arrangements.

The Washington Presbytery met last evening at the Sixth Presbyterian church, corner Sixth and C streets southwest, at 7:30 o'clock. A sermon was preached by the visiting moderator, Rev. S. S. Kelley, from Matthew, x, 28. The presbytery was then constituted with prayer by the moderator. The roll was then called.

The presbytery is composed of the following ministers and ruling elders: Revs. Theodore W. Simpson, William S. Van Duren, Byron Sunderland, Benjamin F. Bittenger, Joseph E. Nourse, John A. Bartlett, John C. Bailey, Charles H. S. Birkley, Thomas H. Childs, Harrison Clark, David H. Dechert, David Wills, George B. Patch, Peter H. Burghardt, Charles H. Ramsdell, Nehemiah Cobb, Archibald McSweney, Theodore S. Wyndol, Alexander J. Houry, Francis M. Todd, F. J. Grinke, J. G. Craighhead, Lawrence E. Miller, Edward H. Cumpton, Samuel S. Wallen, William A. Bartlett, John C. Bailey, Charles H. S. Birkley, Thomas H. Childs, Harrison Clark, David H. Dechert, James M. Nourse, and Eugene Pock.

The churches in the presbytery are the following: Hyattsville, Md., Frank H. Smith; Alexandria, Va., J. A. Was; Georgetown, Va., First Prince William county, John Randolph; First Washington, Octavius Knight; Fourth, Washington, Joseph A. Starling; Fifteenth Street, James M. Merithew; Neale, Va., John T. Warfield; Leesville, Va., First Prince William county, Virginia John Slaughter; Assembly's, Washington, Charles Lyman; Sixth, Washington, George C. Hercules; Westminister, Washington, Abraham Depue; Westminister, Washington, J. W. Darnton; Md., Metropolitan, Washington, G. A. Bohrer; North Washington, Irwin B. Linton; Big Oak, Va., Mount Zion, Va., Manassas, Va.; Charles A. Sweetland; Russell Grove, Va.; Clinton, Va.; Albright, Va.; Falls Church, Va.; Vienna, Va.; Herman, Md.; Eastern Washington, Abraham Kanouse; Boyd station, Md.; Unity, Washington, Bryan F. Brockett, Oak Grove, Va., and Mount Herman.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. The committee on resolutions made the following report, which was adopted: "That the presbytery meet at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, spend thirty minutes in devotional exercises, proceed to business until 12 o'clock, take a recess until 2 p. m., resume business and continue until 5 p. m., take a recess until 7:30 p. m., and resume business until adjournment."

Rev. Dr. Childs was unanimously elected moderator, and Rev. Dr. Bittenger, stated clerk. The commission on occasional records, Manassas, and First church, Prince William county, is composed of Rev. Dr. Bartlett, Rev. Dr. Chester, and Elder Deppa.

The chairman of the committee on arrangements stated that accommodations and entertainment to strangers would be announced at 12 m. to-day.

Defying the Spirits.

Referring to the so-called phenomena of modern spiritualism as revealed in the séances of one Dr. W. M. Keeler, at 610 Third street northwest, and with no other motive than to publicly and completely expose an arrant humbug, I desire and am prepared to test the character of these things by a public trial in the following manner: If Dr. Keeler will select a public hall for the display of his mediumistic powers, or if he will pardon the discourtesy of exposing him in his own house, I will furnish \$100 if I can get a sufficient audience of his own selection (that the "conditions" may be favorable) that the hands that materialize (?) to play the tambourine, guitar, and other instruments, and to write messages from the spirit land for the detection of some and the mystification of others of his patrons, is of his own flesh and blood and muscle, and the same he uses at the close of each performance to collect tribute from those upon whose credulity he has practiced, the onus proleptici of his surroundings, and the occult character of his phenomena to the contrary notwithstanding. Any communication addressed to J. N. E., East Capitol street station, city, will be responded to over name in full.

WASHINGTON, April 8.

Piracy on the Potomac.
A lot of orders from fishing shores for supplies and \$13.50 in money were stolen yesterday from the sloop *Dane* by a white stevedore named John, last name unknown. It is supposed he is on his way to Baltimore.

The National Protective League.
A citizens' mass meeting will be held this evening at Lincoln hall to consider the adoption of certain resolutions and the organizing of a National Protective league.

A Pleasant Soiree.
A pleasant soiree dante at the academy of Prof. Plator & Proctor's last evening was attended by a very large number of persons. Dancing was kept up until late.

Base Ball. Great game, this afternoon at 4:15.
A dead infant was found Monday morning by Officer Hagan on a vacant lot, near North Capitol and Myrtle streets.

PERSONAL.

Harold W. Buchanan, Canada; J. Cassell, Boston, and S. W. Hartwell, New York, are at the St. James.

Mr. J. B. Foltz and daughter, from Ligonier, Ind., are visiting the city for a few days, stopping at Mr. Henry Billings.

W. H. Post, Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Thompson, Miss Thompson, Portland; J. Church, Kalama-zoo; W. Townsend and wife, New York, are at the Harris house.

Gen. E. C. Alexander and his daughter, Miss Louise Alexander, who have been spending the winter with Col. G. Norman Lieber, U. S. A., will return to St. Paul, Minn., this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Forbes, Miss E. Forbes, and Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Nicholas, New York; D. H. Bates, New York; R. S. Warring, wife, and daughter, Pittsburgh, are at Womley's.

E. L. Seefeld, Connecticut; D. S. Patterson and wife, Kansas City; Mr. James Elverson, Philadelphia; Charles H. Foster, Crown Point, N. Y.; A. T. Cawley, Charles, Illinois, and wife, W. F. Miller and wife, New York, are at Willard's.

Thomas A. Boyd, Philadelphia; Henry S. Field, Philadelphia; V. M. Hartley, Philadelphia; Dr. Miller, Chicago; Mr. Charles W. H. Bond, H. B. Robinson, Boston; W. J. McKinley, Pittsburgh; James S. Negley, Pittsburgh; D. S. Gray, Columbia, Ohio, are at the Riggs house.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Brown, Philadelphia; Mrs. E. D. Burgess, Massachusetts; G. Peterson, James Jackson, New York; Mrs. Wells, New Haven; J. O. Scott, New York; Mrs. L. W. Lippincott, New York; F. A. Strever and daughter, Boston; Henry Woods and wife, Canada, are at the Arlington.

Hon. W. L. Zabriske and family, Aurora, N. Y.; Hon. J. Van Vleet, New York; Hon. J. H. D. Mason, Columbia, Ohio; Thomas J. Clay, U. S. A.; Hon. R. M. Mariner, Milwaukee, Wis.; E. J. Hays, Illinois; Hon. George E. Bowden, Norfolk, Va.; R. P. Stevens, London, England; R. M. Lind, New York; Hon. W. W. Green, North Carolina, and William Barnes, Cincinnati, Ohio, are at the Belmont.

THE SCHOOL BOARD.

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting Last Night at the Franklin School.

The Pupils Are Directed to Avoid Disrespect, Either in Burlesque or in Nature.

The board of trustees of the public schools of the District of Columbia met last evening at the Franklin school building. There were present President B. H. Warner, Messrs. Lovejoy, Clark, Griswold, Purvis, Brooks, Baum, Curtis, Smith, and Secretary C. B. Rheem.

A communication was received from E. M. Nourse asking the attention of the board to certain property for sale situated near the Force school building. Referred to the committee on buildings and repairs.

Applications for teachers were received from John S. King, Miss Eva P. Riggs, Miss Rosa A. Jones, Miss Morrow, and Miss Harriet Jeckell. Referred to the superintendent.

Also, an application from Miss Lina E. Jones for leave of absence. Granted.

A communication was received from Mr. L. Stern asking permission to have the Hebrew children in the schools excused on certain holidays observed by the Hebrew people. The secretary was directed to send the report to Mr. Stern, which grant such excuses.

A communication was received from Mr. George S. Prindle, relative to corporal punishment in the public schools. Referred to the chairman of the first district committee on schools.

A communication was received from Prof. John Ogden, asking for the position of supervising principal in the next vacancy that may arise in another kindergarten to be established. Referred.

The report of Superintendents I. Ormond Wilson and George F. T. Cook was submitted, showing total number of pupils enrolled in the District of Columbia, 24,000; average number of pupils enrolled, 23,697; average number of pupils in daily attendance, 20,974; number of teachers employed, 525; number of cases of corporal punishment, 28; number of cases of suspension, 8.

Mr. Brooks submitted a report from Superintendent George F. T. Cook, relative to the voluntary efforts on the part of the colored schools for the relief of the poor of the district. The report was read and the board voted to send the report to the board of public works for the equalization of the pay of janitors in the schools, which was recommended.

Mr. Brooks offered a resolution looking toward the preservation of property purchased from the proceeds of the sale of the school buildings of the public schools in the District of Columbia and donated to said schools, which was referred.

Mr. Baum, of the committee on teachers, submitted the following report:

Accept the resignation of Miss Theresa A. McGill, teacher fourth grade, first division, to take effect March 11, 1884. Assign Mrs. Florence LaRue, to the fourth grade, first division, to take effect March 11, 1884. Accept the resignation of Miss Mary W. Burchard, teacher in the second grade, in place of Miss Robertson, promoted, from April 1, 1884. Appoint Miss Florence LaRue, to the second grade, in place of Miss Robertson, promoted, from April 1, 1884. Accept resignation of Mary E. Kelley, to take effect April 1, 1884. Appoint Mrs. Mary E. Kelley, to the second grade, in place of Miss Robertson, promoted, from April 1, 1884. Accept resignation of Mrs. Collins, teacher second division, March 31, 1884. Promote Miss Cora A. Robertson, from the second grade to the fourth grade, from April 1, 1884. Miss Collier, to the second grade, from April 1, 1884. Appoint Mrs. Florence LaRue, to the second grade, in place of Miss Robertson, promoted, from April 1, 1884. Appoint Mrs. Mary E. 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